

In re Patent Application of:
MEHUYS ET AL.
Serial No. 10/795,925
Filed: 03/08/2004

REMARKS

Prior to the present amendment, claims 1-27 were pending. As a result of the foregoing amendments, claims 4, 7, 10 and 22 are currently pending. Reconsideration of this application in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The drawings have been objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description:

In Paragraph [0028], lines 3-4, character WDM signal 201,
Paragraph [0036], line 3, character laser 400 and
Paragraph [0047], line 16, character output facet 908.

Applicant respectfully submit that replacement Figures 4 and 9, which include the missing reference numerals, obviate the objection. Also, paragraph [0028] has been amended to delete reference numeral 201.

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-9, 11-21, and 23-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rakuljic et al. (5,691,989).

In order to expedite allowance of this application, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-9, 11-21, and 23-27, without prejudice.

Claims 4, 7, 10 and 22 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Accordingly, Claims 4, 7, 10 and 22 have been rewritten in independent form and are now believed to be allowable.

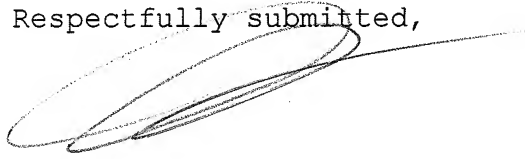
In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is now in condition for allowance.

Early and favorable reconsideration of this application would be appreciated.

Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees, to Deposit Account No. **50-1465** and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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